

Work-in-Progress

Armenian Criminal Justice System

Enhanced training for investigators, prosecutors, and judges to improve performance
in curbing corruption and supporting human rights.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL ACADEMY

The National Academy of Public Administration is a non-profit, independent organization of top public management and organizational leaders who tackle the nation's most critical and complex public management challenges. With a network of more than 850 distinguished Fellows and an experienced professional staff, the National Academy is uniquely qualified and trusted across government to provide objective advice and practical solutions based on systematic research and expert analysis. Established in 1967 and chartered by Congress in 1984, the National Academy continues to make a positive impact by helping federal, state and local governments respond effectively to current circumstances and changing conditions. Learn more about the National Academy and its work at www.NAPAwash.org

BACKGROUND & PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Under a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), the National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA) and its partners in Armenia are developing materials for training courses and workshops designed to improve the anti-corruption and human-rights performance of Armenia's investigators, prosecutors and judges. The training courses will focus on special topics of Armenian and international law and procedures that are key to effectively fighting corruption and protecting human rights. The workshops will focus on the practical challenges in addressing corruption and protecting human rights and will illustrate best practices and foster attitudes and motivation for effectively addressing those challenges. In conducting this project, NAPA is working with three partners located in Yerevan, Armenia.

- Yerevan State University (YSU) is the pre-eminent university in Armenia, and its law faculty offers deep expertise on the criminal law and procedure of the Republic of Armenia and the international legal principles applicable to Armenia. Under subcontract with NAPA and in consultation with NAPA experts, YSU is taking the lead preparing the substantive training and workshop materials.
- The Academy of Justice was established in 2014 by the Republic of Armenia to provide training to investigators, prosecutors, and judges, as well as other criminal-justice personnel. NAPA and YSU are consulting with the Justice Academy during the development of the course and workshop materials, and the Justice Academy is conducting a special educational program in which those materials will be used initially and assessed.
- INL supports the United States' priorities with respect to Armenia by, among other things, assisting the Government of Armenia's efforts to modernize its law enforcement and corrections institutions, curb corruption, and improve respect for human rights and the rule of law. As the sponsor of this project under a cooperative agreement with NAPA, INL monitors implementation of the project primarily through its personnel in the U.S. Embassy in Yerevan.

NAPA will help ensure quality of the materials and coverage of issues at a level comparable to international standards, and will provide high-level oversight and guidance of the project through an Expert Advisory Group of four distinguished Fellows who have led anti-corruption and criminal enforcement activities at senior levels of the U.S. Government, as well as through professional staff with legal and public administration expertise.

The project is being conducted over a period of approximately one year, beginning in December of 2017. During that time, NAPA and YSU will develop the materials for the training courses and the workshops, the Justice Academy will conduct a special program for investigators, prosecutors, and judges based on those materials, and both quantitative measures and qualitative assessments will be collected to evaluate the project. Sustainable impact is expected after completion of the project as the Justice Academy and YSU incorporate the training materials and workshops – and the knowledge and principles shared and developed in this project – into their permanent curricula.

EXPERT ADVISORY GROUP

William Baity,* former Deputy Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FINCEN) in the U.S. Department of the Treasury and former Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Department of Justice; Adjunct Associate Professor, University of Maryland University College.

Daniel Feldman,* Professor of Public Management, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York; former positions with Office of the State Comptroller, New York, and Assistant Deputy Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General of New York.

Jimmy Gurule,* Professor of Law, Notre Dame University; former Undersecretary for Enforcement at the U.S. Department of the Treasury and former Assistant Attorney General and Criminal Division Trial Attorney in the U.S. Department of Justice.

Reginald Robinson,* Director of the School of Public Affairs and Administration, University of Kansas; former Professor of Law, Washburn University, and former Deputy Associate Attorney General in the U.S. Department of Justice and Acting Director of the Department's Office for Victims of Crimes.

PROJECT STAFF

Randolph M. Lyon, * Chief Financial Officer and Director of Development

Lawrence B. Novey, Senior Advisor

Alicia Kingston, Research Associate

*National Academy of Public Administration Fellow